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P.O. Box 8001, Columbus, Ohio 43201

**Italian Village Society Meeting Minutes – Oct. 9, 2012**

Short Stop Youth Center

1066 North High Street

7:30 PM

### **Welcome and Introduction of Members and Guests**

There were 11 members and 1 guest present at the meeting, for a total of 12 people. All Board members were present. Each attendee of the meeting introduced themselves and stated their involvement in the neighborhood.

### **Highball -John Angelo**

Mr. Angelo of the Short North Alliance elaborated on the High Ball Event taking place on Saturday October 27. The location will be at the south end of the Short North in the area of Vine and High St. The new Hilton hotel, an event sponsor will be ringside to the festivities. Street closures will affect the general vicinity from Thursday to Sunday. Volunteers are still needed for a variety of shifts at the event. There will be an admission charge of \$5 per person. There will also be an area which will be “a party within a party.” This area is for rent and has a more intimate feel for “130 of your closest friends.”

### **Columbus Police Chief and Redistricting –Chief Kimberly Jacobs**

Chief Jacobs is celebrating 33 years with the force this year. She became the chief recently with many changes and challenges facing her. She touched on many topics in her presentation. The topics of listening effectively and increasing education can answer the questions of what, should and can be done with regards to the department, officers or individuals. She developed a mission statement for the department which is just one sentence but each word can be elaborated. Trust perceived by the community and how the department is working for you; how the personnel of the department are part of that service; the purpose of the entity is to protect; to have passion to care for the community and people; understanding that some people will be having a bad or the worst day of their lives; leading into compassion for those individuals and care; with taking the utmost pride in what they do; showing enthusiasm with the core values of the department in mind; relating to the how performance matters and the acceptability of it to the residents, visitors, and ultimately the public servant. All these points provide the base of why they want the job of police officer.

Goals mentioned in the talk include forming a partnership with the community and having The Vision. This foresight of The Vision relies on the structure of: Teamwork, Trustworthiness, Service, Safety and Community Care. It also must include Visibility, Trust and Transparency this is followed with self regulation and policing of the department of and by itself. Other topics that were discussed included: her relationship with the union, quality of judges,

recruitment with diversity and archiving standards. On the topic of budgets and efficiencies the use of volunteers and civilians so to free up uniformed officers to be on the beat. The point of property crimes lead to the “don’t by stolen property” and convicted persons not being allowed to sell scrap or to pawn shops. This legislation is possibly going statewide in the near future. Technology in the department has hampered and helped, filing reports slows officers down, but allowing the community to file assists in efficiency. Personnel restructuring and in-house training in the department have been implemented to improve adaptability and function.

Questions from the Society members were taken in closing. The topics of questions varied and included: Deactivation of cell phones when stolen and how Craig’s List is a way of unloading stolen goods versus Pawn Shops that require identification. The development of a task force to research the operations was discussed. Some of researched topics included: quick response times versus priorities, emergency response, surveys and reporting. Redistricting versus coverage was a question that was also brought up. The answer included the amount of officers covering a district with 2 officers per 1,000 residents and plain clothed officers on the beat. A point of how one homicide costs a municipality about one million dollars was made by Chief Jacobs.

Prostitution on Livingston Ave, panhandling in the Short North and other cities policies and convention of officers were brought to Chief Jacobs’s attention. She noted the point of arresting prostitutes is not a deterrent, getting the ‘Johns’ is the goal, and human trafficking is a big concern. Contacting the department’s internal affairs at 614.645.4880 is a way of providing a system of checks.

### **Block Watch & Crime Report –Amelia Constanzo**

Amelia had a question about coverage for the area versus the redistricting and how social media plays a role in fighting and deterring crime. The Chief explained how she is trying to increase her knowledge of Facebook and how knowledge is the key and how we need to work on the perception of crime in the media. In addition, occurrences in the neighborhood have been car break-ins and the like.

Window decals are in and Chief Jacobs was given one. You can request yours at [shortnorthblockwatch.org/](http://shortnorthblockwatch.org/)

### **IV Commission Report –Jill Clark**

Commission meetings are held at 109 N Front St at 6:15pm the third Tuesday of the month. There were 3 holdovers and 33 new applications. Haiku at Hubbard and High had a code enforcement issue with a wall constructed. The proposed 2<sup>nd</sup> avenue school signage was again brought before the commission for review. The Jeffery development will develop in phases and has changed its name to the ‘Jeffery Park.’ Phase one will consists of 261 apartments with 301 parking spaces and 73 Townhomes with 146 Parking Spaces. These Jeffery Park points will be heard this coming Tuesday, and it is important for community residents to voice concerns with the development in these planning phases.

Jill also discussed the Parking variance moratorium brought forward by the Society. A resident had a question on the 50-52 Brickel St and the wall at the rear of the building and vehicle maneuverability. The Historic Preservation Office of the city is a source of information regarding the structures in the district/neighborhood.

### **Membership Report – Mike Renner**

Mike reported there are 67 paid members. He also stated there is a four candidate slate and three are in consideration for the next year board. (If you have not yet, you can join online, it is quick and easy. <http://italianvillage.org/JoinNow.html>)

### **Italian Village Park Update – Steve Hurtt**

No report

### **Traffic and Parking Committee – Andy Klein**

Andy mentioned the meeting of the group occurred right before this Society meeting. Chris Orben, from Weinland Park attended the meeting and gave some insight on the hurdles facing the area. Also, discussed were the number permits issued by the city and the data gathering that needs to occur to work on this challenge. The next meeting will be in November. A resident had a question/concern about large truck traffic on Brickel St, especially near Kerr.

### **Treasurer’s Report – Stephanie Harris**

The Opening balance of the Society for October 2012 was \$4,530.28. Income received was: \$75.00 for membership fees and \$34.25 from Kroger Community Awards program for a total of \$109.25. Expenses for Italian Festival Change were \$150.00. The Closing balance was \$4,489.53.

The Park Fund had an Opening balance of \$1,004.98 with no expenses and interest income of \$.12. The Closing balance was \$1,005.10.

### **Approval of the Minutes**

The September minutes were reviewed for approval, there was a question of the date for the park clean-up and it was changed to September 29<sup>th</sup>. The minutes were then approved by the members.

### **Board Announcements**

There was also a mention of the Sales of T-shirts at the Italian Festival were \$608. The chilly weather apparently played a factor in the number of sales. Also, many thanks go out to Michelle Hill and the St. James Tavern for hosting the fundraiser on October 1<sup>st</sup>, and all who

stopped by and had a beverage. The event raised \$220 from a portion of sales; food was available from 'That Food Truck'.

The Italian Village Art and Wine Festival committee has been working on the name and has had some great ideas according to Mike. The festival will be in late May or June and it is to be held at the Italian Village Park hopefully on the street.

Mike Renner is still looking for a Slate of Candidates for the 2013 IVS Board of Trustees. The Slate is generally approved by the Society at the November meeting. Election will take place at the Holiday Dinner in December.

### **Announcements**

- Italian Village T-shirts are available for sale at *PM Gallery*.
- Highball will be held Oct.27<sup>th</sup> south of its previous locations next to the new Hilton Hotel and Greater Columbus Convention Center.
- Meeting minutes, complete with hyperlinks, can be viewed online at (<http://www.italianvillage.org/MeetingInformation>).

Respectfully Submitted,

Italian Village Society Secretary, Christopher Vidoni